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The Governance of Empire. By P. A. SILBURN, Member of the Legislative Assembly of Natal. (London: Longmans, Green and Company, 1910. Pp. xi. 347.)

The purpose of the author is, in his own words, "to present a colonial view of the imperial idea and to arouse a greater interest and pride in the empire beyond the seas." His plan of work is to apply the lessons recorded by the experience of federal government in the past to the British world empire. The author begins his work with a summary of imperial government in the past and present; following this with a historical account of British imperialism, he then discusses such subjects as the dependent races, sea power, defence, communication, and commerce. In the last chapters he unfolds a plan for the imperial senate in an empire of federated states.

The book is a commentary whose point of view is dominated by certain preconceptions of the author. Among these is a violent antipathy against socialism, so called; like many contemporaries the author condemns as socialism any political tendencies which seem inconvenient to him. Thus he sees in the budget of 1909 "subtly wrapt all the evils of socialism and few, if any, of its virtues." The author's opinion that, when a demoralized collection of self seeking politicians endeavored to acquire despotic sway by influencing the opinions of the people, the House of Lords did their duty to their King, the empire and the British nation, in protecting the people against their own unscrupulously worked-up tempers,—is certainly naive. For effective resistance to the wave of socialism he pins his faith to the principle of social aristocracy. He believes that the judicious use of the power of raising persons to the aristocratic classes will do far more good work in checking the spread of socialism than all the anti-socialistic associations in Christendom; for the same reason he also demands the extension of aristocratic ranks to the out-lying parts of the empire.

Another fundamental belief of the author's is that an Anglo-German war is inevitable. In this situation he considers it the part of wisdom, which a Pitt or Disraeli would follow, to repeat the precedent of the destruction of the Danish fleet at Copenhagen and moreover to profit by the example set by Napoleon in 1808 when he limited the Prussian army and garrisoned French troops in Prussian fortresses. Incidentally it is his belief that Japan is likely to attack Great Britain at the very time when Germany is making her war.

While grotesque opinions like these and the entirely reactionary temper of the author mar this work, they do not entirely destroy its value; there is enough correct information and sane opinion left to give the book a respectable position among serious treatises. Some of the chapters, such as that on the empire and the press are highly interesting. The main thesis of the author is that the disfranchisement of colonial citizens in matters of imperial concern must cease. He briefly reviews the various schemes of imperial federation that have been suggested, and finally develops a plan for an imperial senate of 216 members, elected by the legislatures of the component parts of the empire. The British cabinet is also to act as the ministry in this senate. Imperial questions must first be submitted to this body, but its powers are advisory only; before going into effect laws passed by it must receive the consent of the legislature or legislatures concerned. The author claims for this plan the advantage that it would not necessitate a radical modification of the parliamentary system as now established.

PAUL S. REINSCH.

Administrative Problems of British India. By JOSEPH CHAILLEY, translated by SIR WILLIAM MEYER. (London: Macmillan and Company, 1910. Pp. xv, 590.)

The book before us is a translation of M. Chailley's "*L'Inde Britannique*." The title chosen by the English translator is too narrow, as the book really deals with the conditions of Indian life and the methods of British government in India, and only incidentally with administrative problems. The book therefore offers far more than we are led to expect from its title, in fact it gives a complete survey, though summary in part, of religious, social, economic, and political conditions in India, including also such topics as caste, codes of law, and education.

The work of M. Chailley is quite unlike the books ordinarily produced by Frenchmen writing about India, in that he looks upon British rule and its methods with a great amount of sympathy. He is a close student of British colonial methods, and in the preparation of this work he enjoyed the coöperation and assistance of Sir William Meyer, his translator, as well as of other British officials. The Indian press has criticised his work as being unduly favorable to British rule,